

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 210907

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: REQUEST FOR STUDY OF UK DECISION-MAKING
ON INTERNATIONAL AVIATION POLICY

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, THE RENEGOTIATION OF THE US-UK CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT (BERMUDA AGREEMENT) HAS IMPORTANT PRECEDENTIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE WORLD CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT SYSTEM. THE RENEGOTIATIONS WILL OBVIOUSLY BE LONG AND COMPLEX AND MAY INVOLVE SERIOUS BILATERAL PHILOSOPHICAL CONFLICTS AND CLASHES OF COMMERCIAL INTEREST. THROUGHOUT THE RENEGOTIATION, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE AS CLEAR A GRASP AS POSSIBLE OF REAL UK NEGOTIATING GOALS; THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS WITH RESPECT TO THE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE (DOT) SPECIFICALLY, AS WELL AS THE ROLE OF OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANS OF UKG; AND THOSE AREAS WITHIN THE UKG AND BRITISH PUBLIC WHERE WE MIGHT ADVANTAGEOUSLY MAKE KNOWN OUR VIEWS OF THE US AND UK INTERESTS AT STAKE.

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2. WE WOULD FIND IT USEFUL IF THE EMBASSY COULD PREPARE BY SEPTEMBER 3 - PREFERABLY EARLIER - AN ANALYSIS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND PERSONALITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE RELATED TO THE NEGOTIATIONS AND EMBASSY COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO OTHER UKG ORGANIZATIONS (E.G., FCO)

WHICH MAY INFLUENCE BRITISH POSITIONS AND STRATEGIES. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING FOR EXAMPLE, TO KNOW HOW MUCH HAS EDMUND DELL BEEN INVOLVED IN DEVELOPMENT BRITISH STRATEGY FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND WHETHER BRITISH NEGOTIATING GOALS AND STRATEGY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AT THE CABINET LEVEL. IS THERE ANY PROSPECT FOR USING THE FCO TO RESTRICT GEORGE ROGER'S FREEDOM OF ACTION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS? IF SO, HOW? SIMILARLY, WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL FOR HM TREASURY, PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH TOURISM TO INFLUENCE BRITISH POSITIONS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IF, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NUMBER OF US TOURISTS AND TRAVELERS OR LONDON'S ROLE AS THE GATEWAY FOR US AIR TRAVEL TO EUROPE WERE AT ISSUE? ARE ANY OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT LIKELY TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATIONS? ARE THERE ANY OTHER PRESSURE POINTS IN THE UK WHERE US ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF ALTERNATIVE WORLD AVIATION SYSTEMS MIGHT INFLUENCE BRITISH GOALS AND STRATEGY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS? WHAT IS EMBASSY VIEW AS TO ROLE IN INFLUENCING UKG POSITIONS AND STRATEGIES OF TOURIST AND OTHER COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES SUCH AS HONG KONG, CARIBBEAN OR BERMUDA?

3. USE ALL AVAILABLE SOURCES TO OBTAIN COMPLETE INFORMATION. KISSINGER

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